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The Girl from Missouri

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For the No Man Is an Island EP, see The Girl from Missouri (EP).

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- This article **needs additional citations for verification**. *(May 2019)*
- This article includes a list of references, related reading or external links, **but its sources remain unclear because it lacks inline citations**. *(April 2020)*

The Girl from Missouri (originally called *Born to Be Kissed*) is a 1934 American romantic comedy-drama film starring Jean Harlow and Franchot Tone. The movie was written by Anita Loos and directed by Jack Conway.

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Plot [edit source]

Eadie (Jean Harlow) runs away from her home in Missouri, where her stepfather had her working as a dance partner. On the train, she tells her man-hungry friend Kitty (Patsy Kelly) that she has ideals and plans to marry a somebody so she can accomplish something worthwhile.

She lands a job as one of the chorus girls entertaining guests at a party at the mansion of wealthy Frank Cousins (Lewis Stone). There, she manages to see Cousins alone; oddly, he offers her expensive gifts (including an "authentic Cellini" sculpture that he keeps on his desk), but she refuses to accept them until they become engaged. She is surprised when he readily agrees. Unbeknownst to her, guest T.R. Paige (Lionel Barrymore) had just before refused to save Cousins from financial ruin. After Eadie leaves Cousins (with the expensive cufflinks he gave her), he shoots himself. However, the evening isn't a total waste to Eadie; she becomes acquainted with T.R. when she gets him to retrieve the cufflinks from her stocking before the investigating policeman can ask embarrassing questions.

Eadie visits her new friend at his workplace to thank him. When she says she has been fired and that she is determined to marry a rich man, an alarmed T.R. gives her some money and leaves for Palm Beach, Florida. Eadie and Kitty follow and visit T.R.'s office. Eadie is spotted in the waiting room by T.R.'s son Tom (Franchot Tone). Not knowing who he is, Eadie tries to brush him off, but he is very persistent. Eventually, she learns his identity, but remains cool to him, since it becomes clear that he is not interested in marriage. Tom finally manages to get her alone in his bedroom in the Paige mansion, but she defends her virtue and, to his surprise, he lets her go.

Tom tells his father that he wants to marry Eadie, despite her disreputable past. T.R. gives his blessing, but after Tom leaves, calls the district attorney. Tom tells Eadie they are going to get married. After he leaves however, a man sneaks into her apartment. Some photographers catch her in the stranger's arms and the district attorney accuses her of stealing Cousins' jewelry and jails her. When Tom and his father come to see her, she tells Tom that T.R. must have framed her, but Tom's father is much more persuasive and Tom breaks up with Eadie.

Tom's rival, the married Charlie Turner, bails Eadie out. For revenge, she sneaks into T.R.'s stateroom on the liner he and Tom are taking to London. She emerges unexpectedly, clad only in lingerie, and embraces a surprised T.R just as photographers take his picture.

Having been disillusioned, Eadie gets drunk and turns to Charlie Turner. However, Kitty keeps them from being alone together as long as she can. Tom arrives just in time, having changed his mind, and puts Eadie in the shower to sober up. T.R. follows. To save his reputation, he has told the press she was innocent of the theft and that she was married to Tom. He is also impressed by her fighting spirit. A quick wedding is arranged on the spot.

The Girl from Missouri

Theatrical release poster

Directed by	Jack Conway
Written by	Anita Loos John Emerson Howard Emmett Rogers
Starring	Jean Harlow Lionel Barrymore Franchot Tone
Cinematography	Ray June Harold Rosson
Edited by	Tom Held
Distributed by	Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer
Release date	August 3, 1934
Running time	75 minutes
Country	United States
Language	English
Budget	$511,000

Cast [edit source]

- Jean Harlow as Edith 'Eadie' Chapman
- Lionel Barrymore as Thomas Randall 'T.R.' Paige
- Franchot Tone as T.R. 'Tom' Paige Jr.
- Lewis Stone as Frank Cousins
- Patsy Kelly as Kitty Lennihan
- Alan Mowbray as Lord Douglas
- Clara Blandick as Miss Newberry, T.R.'s secretary
- Hale Hamilton as Charlie Turner
- Garry Owen as Sailor Cupick - Kitty's Date

See also [edit source]

- Lionel Barrymore filmography

References [edit source]

External links [edit source]

- *The Girl from Missouri* at the TCM Movie Database
- *The Girl from Missouri* at IMDb

V · T · E **Films directed by Jack Conway** [show]

V · T · E **Anita Loos** [show]

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